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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/821,149	04/08/2004	Richard D. Dettinger	ROC920030369US1	9495
46797	7590	11/16/2006	EXAMINER	
IBM CORPORATION, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW DEPT 917, BLDG. 006-1 3605 HIGHWAY 52 NORTH ROCHESTER, MN 55901-7829			BETIT, JACOB F	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2164	

DATE MAILED: 11/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/821,149

Applicant(s)

DETTINGER ET AL.

Examiner

Jacob F. Betit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

  
SAM RIMELL  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/27/04 and 7/13/06.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101*

1. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

2. Claims 16-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The claims lack the necessary physical articles or objects to constitute a machine or a manufacture within the meaning of 35 USC 101. They are clearly not a series of steps or acts to be a process nor are they a combination of chemical compounds to be a composition of matter. As such, they fail to fall within a statutory category.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yuknewicz et al. (U.S. patent application publication No. 2005/0171934 A1).

As to claim 1, Yuknewicz et al. teaches a search system for gathering detailed information about objects of interest, comprising:

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an interface for presenting, to a user, a results set received in response to issuing an original executable query, wherein the results set contains a field with one or more values representing objects of interest (see paragraph 0048);

a set of parameterized queries, each having one or more conditions containing at least one parameter marker for which a value may be substituted to generate an executable query (see paragraph 0049);

a set of parameterized query associations, each specifying one or more fields involved in conditions having parameter markers contained in a corresponding parameterized query (see paragraph 0052-0053); and

an executable component configured to identify one or more parameterized queries only if each field, specified as required in one or more parameterized query associations corresponding to the identified parameterized queries, are contained in the result set (see paragraphs 0056).

As to claim 2, Yuknewicz et al. teaches wherein the executable component is configured to present the user with one or more links to the identified parameterized queries from within the interface (see paragraph 0052).

As to claim 3, Yuknewicz et al. teaches wherein the executable component is configured to provide a parameterized query interface displaying at least one of the identified parameterized queries, in response to the user selecting one of the links (see paragraph 0053).

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As to claim 4, Yuknewicz et al. teaches wherein the executable component is configured to substitute, for at least a first parameter marker contained in the at least one of the identified parameterized queries, at least one value contained in the results set (see paragraph 0054-0056).

As to claim 5, Yuknewicz et al. teaches wherein the parameterized query interface prompts the user to provide a value to be substituted for at least a second parameter marker contained in the at least one of the identified parameterized queries (see paragraph 0055).

As to claim 6, Yuknewicz et al. teaches wherein, in response to the user selecting one of the links, the executable component is configured to automatically generate an executable query by substituting, for at least one parameter marker contained in a parameter marker associated with the selected link, at least one value from the results set (see paragraphs 0055-0056).

As to claim 7, Yuknewicz et al. teaches a method for automatically presenting a user with parameterized queries, each having parameter markers for which parameter values may be substituted to generate executable queries, comprising:

providing an interface presenting the user with a results set comprising a plurality of fields (see paragraph 0048);

identifying one or more parameterized queries, each associated with one or more of the plurality of fields in the results set (see paragraphs 0049 and 0052-0053); and

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providing the user access to the identified parameterized queries from the interface (see paragraphs 0052-0056).

As to claim 8, Yuknewicz et al. teaches wherein identifying the one or more parameterized queries comprises:

comparing fields in the results set to one or more fields specified as required in a set of parameterized query associations, each corresponding to a parameterized query; and identifying a parameterized query only if each field, specified as required in a parameterized query association corresponding to the identified parameterized query, are contained in the result set (see paragraphs 0048-0049).

As to claim 9, Yuknewicz et al. teaches wherein providing the user access to the identified parameterized queries from the interface comprises providing a link accessible by selecting a field value (see paragraph 0052).

As to claim 10, Yuknewicz et al. teaches wherein providing the user access to the identified parameterized queries from the interface comprises providing a link to a parameterized query having multiple parameter markers, each associated with a field in the results set (see paragraph 0055).

As to claim 11, Yuknewicz et al. teaches wherein the link is provided adjacent a row in the results set (see figure 5 and see paragraph 0049).

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As to claim 12, Yuknewicz et al. teaches a method for providing a user with access to parameterized queries, each having parameter markers for which parameter values may be substituted to generate executable queries, comprising:

associating one or more fields with one or more parameterized queries containing parameter markers in conditions containing the one or more fields (see paragraph 0052-0053);

analyzing a results set presented to identify parameterized queries associated with fields contained therein (see paragraph 0048);

presenting a user with a list of one or more identified parameterized queries (see paragraph 0049); and

generating an executable query by substituting, for one or more parameter markers in at least one of the identified parameterized queries, one or more values from the results set (see paragraphs 0052-0056).

As to claim 13, Yuknewicz et al. teaches further comprising prompting the user for values to be substituted for parameter markers associated with fields not contained in the result set (see paragraph 0054-0056).

As to claim 14, Yuknewicz et al. teaches wherein associating one or more fields with one or more parameterized queries containing parameter markers in conditions containing the one or more fields comprises:

specifying which fields contained in conditions having parameter markers are required to be contained in the results set before a corresponding parameterized query is presented to the user (see paragraph 0049).

As to claim 15, Yuknewicz et al. teaches wherein:

presenting a user with a list of one or more identified parameterized queries comprises presenting the user with a list of more than one parameterized query; and the method further comprises receiving a user selected one of the parameterized queries, wherein the new query is generated by substituting, for one or more parameter markers in the selected parameterized query, one or more values from the results set (see paragraphs 0055-0056).

As to claim 16, Yuknewicz et al. teaches a computer-readable medium containing a program for providing a user with access to parameterized queries having parameter markers for which parameter values may be substituted to generate executable queries which, when executed by a processor, performs operations comprising:

providing an interface presenting the user with a results set comprising a plurality of fields (see paragraph 0048);

identifying one or more parameterized queries, each associated with one or more of the plurality of fields in the results set (see paragraph 0049); and

providing the user access to the identified parameterized queries from the interface (see paragraphs 0052-0056).



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As to claim 17, Yuknewicz et al. teaches further comprising providing an interface allowing a user to associate parameterized queries with fields (see paragraphs 0051).

As to claim 18, Yuknewicz et al. teaches wherein the interface allows the user to specify one or more fields that are required to be contained in the results set before a corresponding parameterized query is presented to the user (see paragraph 0055).

As to claim 19, Yuknewicz et al. teaches wherein providing the user access to the identified parameterized queries from the interface comprises providing a link accessible by selecting a field value (see paragraph 0052-0053).

As to claim 20, Yuknewicz et al. teaches wherein providing the user access to the identified parameterized queries from the interface comprises providing a link to a parameterized query having multiple parameter markers, each associated with a field in the results set (see paragraph 0055).

As to claim 21, Yuknewicz et al. teaches wherein the link is provided adjacent a row in the results set (see figure 5 and see paragraph 0049).

As to claim 22, Yuknewicz et al. teaches a data processing system, comprising:  
a plurality of parameterized queries, each including at least one condition involving at least one parameter marker for which parameter values may be substituted to

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generate an executable query (see paragraph 0068);

a set of parameterized query associations, each specifying one or more fields associated with one of the parameterized queries (see paragraphs 0048 and 0073); and

an executable component configured to examine a results set obtained in response to issuing a first query, examine the set of parameterized query associations to identify parameterized queries associated with fields in the results set, and provide an indication of the identified parameterized queries to a user (see paragraph 0074-0075).

As to claim 23, Yuknewicz et al. teaches wherein the executable component is further configured to generate a second query by substituting values contained in the results set for one or more parameters for one of the identified parameterized queries (see paragraphs 0052-0056).

As to claim 24, Yuknewicz et al. teaches wherein the executable component is configured to: provide a first interface to display the results set to a user; and provide one or more links from within the first interface to a second interface indicating the identified parameterized queries (see paragraphs 0048-0049).

As to claim 25, Yuknewicz et al. teaches wherein the executable component is configured to generate a second query by substituting values contained in the results set for one or more parameters for one of the identified parameterized queries selected by the user (see paragraph 0054-0056).

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As to claim 26, Yuknewicz et al. teaches wherein the executable component is further configured to prompt the user for data to be substituted for one or more parameters of the selected parameterized query that is not contained in the results set (see paragraph 0054-0056).

*Conclusion*

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jacob F. Betit whose telephone number is (571) 272-4075. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 9:30 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571) 272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

jfb  
9 Nov 2006

  
**SAM RIMELL**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**